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valleys that run in the direction of the dip; *anaclinal*, valleys that run against the dip of the beds. Of the second order there are *anticlinal* valleys (Figure 66), which follow anticlinal axes; *synclinal* valleys (Figure 67), which follow synclinal axes; and *monoclinal* valleys, which run in the direction of the strike between the axes of the fold — one side of the valley formed of the summits of the beds, the other composed of the cut edges of the formation. This classification rests solely, the author adds, on typical examples, one form often running into another.

One who is quite ignorant of geology will find the report exceedingly interesting, while the professional geologist, in whose hands the volume has now been for over a year, has doubtless profited by its perusal.

DAVIES' PREPARATION AND MOUNTING OF MICROSCOPIC OBJECTS.¹ — As a brief and compact manual of the art of preparing and mounting microscopic objects we always supposed that the present one was probably the best. The second edition is a still more useful book, and has been specially adapted by the editor for the use of medical students and young practitioners. For general use, however, we can recommend it as a cheap and reliable book.

HUXLEY AND MARTIN'S BIOLOGY.² — A notice, by a most competent critic, of the first edition of this excellent manual appeared in the April number of the *NATURALIST*. This second edition is issued at a lower price, and contains a number of corrections and alterations, the pages having been entirely reset.

JORDAN'S MANUAL OF THE VERTEBRATES OF THE NORTHERN UNITED STATES.³ — To those desirous of a cheap manual for the ready identification of our land and fresh-water vertebrates, we should unhesitatingly recommend this book as well compiled and convenient, while the price makes it generally accessible. The characters of the classes and orders are much abbreviated, and the generic characters are confined to a key, "while for specific characters, only such points have been generally retained as are distinctive as well as descriptive." The classification is based on that of recent authors, and no important innovations seem to have been suggested by the author.

In order to test the part related to reptiles and batrachians we have identified several species, before unknown to us, with ease and certainty. The objection to such books as this is that the brief and condensed descriptions are apt to be unsatisfactory in critical cases, but as

¹ *The Preparation and Mounting of Microscopic Objects*. By THOMAS DAVIES. Second Edition, greatly enlarged. Edited by J. MATHEWS, M. D. New York: G. P., Putnam's Sons. 1876. 12mo, pp. 214. \$1.25.

² *A Course of Practical Instruction in Elementary Biology*. By T. H. HUXLEY, assisted by H. N. MARTIN. Second Edition, revised. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. 1876. \$2.00.

³ *Manual of the Vertebrates of the Northern United States*. Including the District east of the Mississippi River, and north of North Carolina and Tennessee, exclusive of Marine Species. By DAVID STARR JORDAN, M. S., M. D. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg, & Co. 1876. 12mo, pp. 342. \$2.00.